

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A blade member adapted to be connected to a shaft of a hockey stick, said blade member comprising:

an elongated hollow blade body defining a receiving cavity and being made of a fiber reinforced resin composite;

a ~~flexible~~ damping portion disposed within said elongated hollow blade body and being made of cork; and

a layer of adhesive material ~~an interface portion~~ disposed between said elongated hollow blade body and said ~~flexible~~ damping portion.

2. (Currently Amended) The blade member as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising wherein said interface portion includes a first interface layer proximate to said flexible damping portion and being made of viscoelastic adhesive material, and a second interface layer proximate to said elongated hollow blade body and being made of a layer of polymer composite disposed between said adhesive material and said elongated hollow blade body, having high toughness.

3. (Original) The blade member as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said polymer composite is a composition of fibers and resin.

4. (Currently Amended) The blade member as claimed in Claim 1, further

comprising an impact absorbing member embedded in said ~~flexible~~-damping portion.

5. (Original) The blade member as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said impact absorbing member is made of a material selected from a group consisting of porous material, rubber, engineering plastic, wood, foaming material, medium density fiberboard, paper, cotton and cloth.

6. (Original) The blade member as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said foaming material is foam.

7. (Original) The blade member as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said impact absorbing member includes a plurality of impact absorbing units.

8. (Original) The blade member as claimed in Claim 7, wherein each of said impact absorbing units is made of a material independently selected from a group consisting of porous material, rubber, engineering plastic, wood, foaming material, medium density fiberboard, paper, cotton and cloth.

9. (Original) The blade member as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said foaming material is foam.